

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R. 1348**

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**AN ACT**

To establish the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers  
Valley National Heritage Corridor in the State of  
Connecticut, and for other purposes.

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## AN ACT

To establish the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley  
National Heritage Corridor in the State of Connecticut,  
and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Quinebaug and  
5       Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act  
6       of 1993”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that:

3 (1) The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley  
4 in the State of Connecticut is one of the last un-  
5 spoiled and undeveloped areas in the Northeastern  
6 United States and has remained largely intact, in-  
7 cluding important aboriginal archaeological sites, ex-  
8 cellent water quality, beautiful rural landscapes,  
9 architecturally significant mill structures and mill  
10 villages, and large acreage of parks and other per-  
11 manent open space.

12 (2) The State of Connecticut ranks last among  
13 the 50 States in the amount of federally protected  
14 park and open space lands within its borders and  
15 lags far behind the other northeastern States in the  
16 amount of land set-aside for public recreation.

17 (3) The beautiful rural landscapes, scenic vistas  
18 and excellent water quality of the Quinebaug and  
19 Shetucket Rivers contain significant undeveloped  
20 recreational opportunities for people throughout the  
21 United States.

22 (4) The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley  
23 is within a 2-hour drive of the major metropolitan  
24 areas of New York City, Hartford, Providence,  
25 Worcester, Springfield, and Boston. With the Presi-  
26 dent's Commission on Americans Outdoors reporting

1       that Americans are taking shorter “closer-to-home”  
2       vacations, the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Val-  
3       ley represents important close-by recreational oppor-  
4       tunities for significant population.

5           (5) The existing mill sites and other structures  
6       throughout the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers  
7       Valley were instrumental in the development of the  
8       industrial revolution.

9           (6) The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley  
10      contains a vast number of discovered and unre-  
11      covered Native American and colonial archaeological  
12      sites significant to the history of North America and  
13      the United States.

14          (7) The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley  
15      represents one of the last traditional upland farming  
16      and mill village communities in the northeastern  
17      United States.

18          (8) The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley  
19      played a nationally significant role in the cultural  
20      evolution of the prewar colonial period. Leading the  
21      transformation from Puritan to Yankee, the “Great  
22      Awakening” religious revival and early political de-  
23      velopment leading up to and during the War of  
24      Independence.

1           (9) Many local, regional and State agencies,  
2       businesses, and private citizens and the New Eng-  
3       land Governors' Conference have expressed an over-  
4       whelming desire to combine forces: to work coopera-  
5       tively to preserve and enhance resources region-wide  
6       and better plan for the future.

7   **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET**  
8                   **RIVERS VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE COR-**  
9                   **RIDOR; PURPOSE.**

10       (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established in  
11   the State of Connecticut the Quinebaug and Shetucket  
12   Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor.

13       (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to pro-  
14   vide a management framework to assist the State of Con-  
15   necticut, its units of local and regional government and  
16   citizens in the development and implementation of inte-  
17   grated cultural, historical, and recreational land resource  
18   management programs in order to retain, enhance, and  
19   interpret the significant features of the lands, water, and  
20   structures of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley  
21   in the State of Connecticut.

22   **SEC. 4. BOUNDARIES AND ADMINISTRATION.**

23       (a) BOUNDARIES.—The Boundaries of the Corridor  
24   shall include the towns of Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury,  
25   Chaplin, Coventry, Eastford, Franklin, Griswold, Hamp-

1 ton, Killingly, Lebanon, Lisbon, Mansfield, Norwich,  
2 Plainfield, Pomfret, Preston, Putnam, Scotland, Sprague,  
3 Sterling, Thompson, Voluntown, Windham, and Wood-  
4 stock. As soon as practical after the date of enactment  
5 of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in  
6 the Federal Register a detailed description and map of  
7 boundaries established under this subsection.

8 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Corridor shall be admin-  
9 istered in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

10 **SEC. 5. QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET RIVERS VALLEY NA-**  
11 **TIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION.**

12 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established  
13 within the Department of the Interior the Quinebaug and  
14 Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Com-  
15 mission (referred to in this Act as the “Commission”).  
16 The Commission shall assist appropriate Federal, State,  
17 regional planning organizations, and local authorities in  
18 the development and implementation of an integrated re-  
19 source management plan for the lands and water as speci-  
20 fied in section 3.

21 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be com-  
22 prised of 19 members appointed not later than 6 months  
23 after the date of enactment of this Act as follows:

24 (1) The Director of the National Park Service  
25 ex officio (or his delegate).

1           (2) 3 individuals appointed by the Secretary  
2           after consultation with the governor, who shall rep-  
3           resent the interests of—

4                   (A) the Connecticut Department of Envi-  
5                   ronmental Protection,

6                   (B) the Connecticut Historical Commis-  
7                   sion, and

8                   (C) the Connecticut Department of Eco-  
9                   nomic Development.

10          (3) 6 individuals representing the interests of  
11          local government or regional planning organizations  
12          from Connecticut appointed by the Secretary after  
13          consultation with the Governor, of whom, 3 shall be  
14          representatives of the 3 regional planning organiza-  
15          tions within the Corridor region and 3 shall be local  
16          elected officials from the region.

17          (4) 9 individuals from the general public, who  
18          are citizens of the State of Connecticut, appointed  
19          by the Secretary, after consultation with the Gov-  
20          ernor, representing conservation, business, tourism,  
21          and recreational interests.

22          A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the manner  
23          in which the original appointments were made.

24          (c) TERMS.—(1) Members of the Commission shall  
25          be appointed for terms of 3 years and may be reappointed.

1       (2) Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring  
2 before the expiration of the term for which his predecessor  
3 was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder  
4 of such term. Any member of the Commission appointed  
5 for a definite term may serve after the expiration of his  
6 term until his successor has taken office.

7       (d) COMPENSATION.—Members of the Commission  
8 shall receive no pay on account of their service on the  
9 Commission but while away from their homes or regular  
10 places of business in the performance of services for the  
11 Commission, members of the Commission shall be allowed  
12 travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence,  
13 in the same manner as persons employed intermittently  
14 in the Government service are allowed expenses under sec-  
15 tion 5703 of title 5, United State Code.

16       (e) CHAIRPERSON.—The Chairperson of the Commis-  
17 sion shall be elected by the members of the Commission.

18       (f) QUORUM.—(1) 8 members of the Commission  
19 shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may hold  
20 hearings.

21       (2) The affirmative vote of not less than 10 members  
22 of the Commission shall be required to approve the budget  
23 of the Commission.

24       (g) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall hold its first  
25 meeting not later than 90 days after the date on which



1 its members are appointed, and shall meet at least quar-  
2 terly at the call of the chairperson or 10 of its members.  
3 Meetings of the Commission shall be subject to section  
4 552(b) of title 5, United States Code (relating to open  
5 meetings).

6 (h) PROXY.—Any member of the Commission may  
7 vote by means of a signed proxy exercised by another  
8 member of the Commission, but any member so voting  
9 shall not be considered present for purposes of establish-  
10 ing a quorum.

11 **SEC. 6. STAFF OF THE COMMISSION.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) The Commission shall have  
13 the power to appoint and fix compensation of such staff  
14 as may be necessary to carry out its duties.

15 (2) Staff appointed by the Commission—

16 (A) shall be appointed subject to the provisions  
17 of title 5, United States Code, governing appoint-  
18 ments in the competitive service; and

19 (B) shall be paid in accordance with provisions  
20 of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of  
21 such title relating to classification and General  
22 Schedule pay rates.

23 (b) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—Subject to such  
24 rules as may be adopted by the Commission, the Commis-  
25 sion may procure temporary and intermittent services to

1 the same extent as is authorized by section 3109(b) of title  
2 5, United States Code, but at rates determined by the  
3 Commission to be reasonable.

4 (c) STAFF OF OTHER AGENCIES.—(1) Upon request  
5 of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may  
6 detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of  
7 such agency to the Commission to assist the Commission  
8 in carrying out the Commission's duties.

9 (2) The Commission may accept the service of per-  
10 sonnel detailed from the State, any political subdivision  
11 and regional planning organizations, and may reimburse  
12 the State, political subdivision, and regional planning or-  
13 ganizations for those services.

14 **SEC. 7. POWERS OF COMMISSION.**

15 (a) HEARINGS.—(1) The Commission may, for the  
16 purposes of carrying out this Act, hold hearings, sit and  
17 act at such times and places, take such testimony, and  
18 receive such evidence, as the Commission considers appro-  
19 priate.

20 (2) The Commission may not issue subpoenas or ex-  
21 ercise any subpoena authority.

22 (b) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—Any mem-  
23 ber or agent of the Commission, if so authorized by the  
24 Commission, may take any action which the Commission  
25 is authorized to take by this Act.

1 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—The Ad-  
2 ministrator of the General Services Administration shall  
3 provide to the Commission on a reimbursable basis, such  
4 administrative support services as the Commission may re-  
5 quest.

6 (d) MAILS.—The Commission may use the United  
7 States mails in the same manner and under the same con-  
8 ditions as other departments and other agencies of the  
9 United States.

10 (e) USE OF FUNDS TO OBTAIN MONEY.—The Com-  
11 mission may use its funds to obtain money from any  
12 source under any program or law requiring the recipient  
13 of such money to make a contribution in order to receive  
14 such money.

15 (f) GIFTS.—Except as provided in subsection  
16 (g)(2)(B), the Commission may, for purposes of carrying  
17 out its duties, seek, accept, and dispose of gifts, bequests,  
18 or donations of money, personal property, or services, re-  
19 ceived from any source: *Provided*, That such gifts are used  
20 for public purposes.

21 (g) ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.—(1) Except  
22 as provided in paragraph (2) and except with respect to  
23 any leasing of facilities under subsection (c), the Commis-  
24 sion may not acquire any real property or interest in real  
25 property.

1       (2) Subject to paragraph (3), the Commission may  
2 acquire real property or interest in real property in the  
3 Corridor—

4           (A) by gift or devise; or

5           (B) by purchase from a willing seller with  
6 money that was given, appropriated, or bequeathed  
7 to the Commission on the condition that such money  
8 would be used to purchase real property, or interest  
9 in real property, in the Corridor.

10       (3) Any real property or interest in real property ac-  
11 quired by the Commission under paragraph (2) shall be  
12 conveyed by the Commission to an appropriate public or  
13 private land management agency, as determined by the  
14 Commission. Any such conveyance shall be made—

15           (A) as soon as practicable after such acqui-  
16 sition;

17           (B) without consideration; and

18           (C) on the condition that the real property or  
19 interest in real property so conveyed is used for pub-  
20 lic purposes.

21       (h) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—For purposes of  
22 carrying out the plan, the Commission may enter into co-  
23 operative agreements with the State of Connecticut, with  
24 any political subdivision, or with any person or organiza-  
25 tion. Any such cooperative agreement shall, at a minimum,

1 establish procedures for providing notice to the Commis-  
2 sion of any action proposed by the State, such political  
3 subdivision, or such person which may affect implementa-  
4 tion of the plan referred to in section 8.

5 **SEC. 8. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.**

6 (a) PREPARATION OF PLAN.—Within 2 years after  
7 the Commission conducts its first meeting, it shall submit  
8 to the Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of Con-  
9 necticut for review and approval of Cultural Heritage and  
10 Corridor Management Plan. The Plan shall be based on  
11 existing Federal, State, and local plans, but shall coordi-  
12 nate those plans and present a unified historic preserva-  
13 tion, interpretation, and recreational plan for the Cor-  
14 ridor. The plan shall—

15 (1) provide an inventory which includes any  
16 property in the Corridor which should be preserved,  
17 restored, managed, developed, maintained, or ac-  
18 quired because of its national historic or cultural or  
19 recreational significance;

20 (2) recommend advisory standards and criteria  
21 applicable to the construction, preservation, restora-  
22 tion, alteration, and use of all properties within the  
23 Corridor;

24 (3) develop an historic interpretation plan to in-  
25 terpret the history of the Corridor;

1           (4) develop an inventory which includes existing  
2           and potential recreational sites which are developed  
3           or which could be developed along the Quinebaug  
4           and Shetucket Rivers and their surrounding areas;

5           (5) recommend policies for resource manage-  
6           ment which consider and detail application of appro-  
7           priate land and water management techniques, in-  
8           cluding but not limited to, the development of inter-  
9           governmental cooperative agreements to protect the  
10          Corridor's historical, cultural, recreational, scenic,  
11          and natural resources in a manner consistent with  
12          supporting appropriate and compatible economic re-  
13          vitalization efforts;

14          (6) detail ways in which local, State, and Fed-  
15          eral programs may best be coordinated to promote  
16          the purposes of this Act; and

17          (7) contain a program for implementation of  
18          the Plan by the State and its political subdivisions.

19          (b) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—After review and  
20          approval of the Plan by the Secretary and the Governor  
21          as provided in subsection (a), the Commission shall imple-  
22          ment the Plan by taking appropriate steps to preserve and  
23          interpret the historic resources, develop the recreational  
24          resources of the Corridor and its surrounding area, and  
25          to support public and private efforts in economic revital-

1 ization, consistent with the goals of the Plan. These steps  
2 may include, but need not be limited to—

3           (1) assisting the State and local governmental  
4           entities or regional planning organizations, and non-  
5           profit organizations in preserving the Corridor and  
6           ensuring appropriate use of lands and structures  
7           throughout the Corridor;

8           (2) assisting the State and local governmental  
9           entities or regional planning organizations, and non-  
10          profit organizations in establishing, and maintaining  
11          visitor centers and other interpretive exhibits in the  
12          Corridor;

13          (3) assisting the State and local governmental  
14          entities or regional planning organizations, and non-  
15          profit organizations in developing recreational pro-  
16          grams and resources in the Corridor;

17          (4) assisting the State and local governmental  
18          entities or regional planning organizations, and non-  
19          profit organizations in increasing public awareness  
20          of and appreciation for the historical and architec-  
21          tural resources and sites in the Corridor;

22          (5) assisting the State and local governmental  
23          or regional planning organizations and nonprofit or-  
24          ganizations in the restoration of any historic build-  
25          ing in the Corridor;

1           (6) encouraging by appropriate means enhanced  
2       economic and industrial development in the Corridor  
3       consistent with the goals of the Plan;

4           (7) encouraging local governments to adopt  
5       land use policies consistent with the management of  
6       the Corridor and the goals of the Plan, and to en-  
7       sure appropriate use of lands and structures  
8       throughout the Corridor; and

9           (8) assisting the State and local governmental  
10      entities or regional planning organizations to ensure  
11      that clear, consistent signs identifying access points  
12      and sites of interest are put in place throughout the  
13      Corridor.

14   **SEC. 9. TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.**

15      (a) TERMINATION.—Except as provided in subsection  
16   (b), the Commission shall terminate on the day occurring  
17   5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

18      (b) EXTENSION.—The Commission may be extended  
19   for a period of not more than 5 years beginning on the  
20   day of termination referred to in subsection (a) if, not  
21   later than 180 days before such day—

22           (1) the Commission determines such extension  
23      is necessary in order to carry out the purposes of  
24      this Act;



1           (2) the Commission submits such proposed ex-  
2           tension to the Committee on Natural Resources of  
3           the United States House of Representatives and the  
4           Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the  
5           United States Senate; and

6           (3) the Secretary, in consultation with the Gov-  
7           ernor of Connecticut, approves such extension.

8   **SEC. 10. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.**

9           (a) APPROVAL OF PLAN.—The Secretary of the Inte-  
10          rior, in consultation with the Governor of Connecticut,  
11          shall approve or disapprove a Plan submitted under this  
12          Act by the Commission not later than 60 days after receiv-  
13          ing such Plan. The Secretary, in consultation with the  
14          Governor, shall approve a Plan submitted if—

15               (1) they find the Plan, if implemented, would  
16               adequately protect significant historical and cultural  
17               resources of the Corridor while providing adequate  
18               and appropriate outdoor recreational opportunities  
19               and economic activities within the Corridor;

20               (2) they determine that the Commission held  
21               public hearings and provided adequate opportunity  
22               for public and governmental involvement in the prep-  
23               aration of the Plan; and

24               (3) the Secretary receives adequate assurances  
25               from appropriate State officials that the rec-

1 ommended implementation program identified in the  
2 Plan will be initiated within a reasonable time after  
3 date of approval of the Plan, and that such imple-  
4 mentation program will ensure effective implementa-  
5 tion of the State and local aspects of the Plan.

6 (b) DISAPPROVAL OF PLAN.—If the Secretary dis-  
7 approves a Plan submitted to him by the Commission, he  
8 shall advise the Commission in writing of the reasons  
9 therefor and shall make recommendations for revisions in  
10 the Plan. The Commission shall within 90 days of receipt  
11 of such notice of disapproval revise and resubmit the plan  
12 to the Secretary who shall approve or disapprove a pro-  
13 posed revision within 60 days after the date it is submitted  
14 to him.

15 (c) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of the Interior shall,  
16 upon request of the Commission, assist the Commission  
17 in the preparation and implementation of Plan.

18 **SEC. 11. DUTIES OF OTHER FEDERAL ENTITIES.**

19 Any Federal entity conducting or supporting activi-  
20 ties directly affecting the Corridor shall—

21 (1) consult with the Secretary and the Commis-  
22 sion with respect to such activities;

23 (2) cooperate with the Secretary and the Com-  
24 mission with respect to such activities and, to the

1 maximum extent practicable, coordinate such activi-  
2 ties; and

3 (3) to the maximum extent practicable, conduct  
4 or support such activities in a manner which the  
5 Commission determines will not have an adverse ef-  
6 fect on the Corridor.

7 **SEC. 12. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 (a) COMMISSION.—There is authorized to be appro-  
9 priated \$200,000 for fiscal year 1994 and \$250,000 annu-  
10 ally to the Commission to carry out its duties under this  
11 Act except that the Federal contributions to the Commis-  
12 sion shall not exceed 50 percent of the annual costs to  
13 the Commission in carrying out those duties.

14 (b) SECRETARY.—There are authorized to be appro-  
15 priated annually to the Secretary such sums as may be  
16 necessary to carry out his duties under this Act.

17 **SEC. 13. DEFINITIONS.**

18 For purposes of this Act—

19 (1) The term “Commission” means the  
20 Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National  
21 Heritage Corridor Commission established under  
22 section 5.

23 (2) The term “State” means the State of Con-  
24 necticut.

1           (3) The term “Corridor” means the Quinebaug  
2           and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Cor-  
3           ridor established under section 3.

4           (4) The term “Plan” means the Cultural Herit-  
5           age and Corridor Management Plan to be prepared  
6           by the Commission pursuant to section 8.

7           (5) The term “Governor” means the Governor  
8           of the State of Connecticut.

9           (6) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
10          of the Interior.

11          (7) The term “regional planning organization”  
12          means each of the 3 regional planning organizations  
13          established by Connecticut State statute chapter 127  
14          and chapter 50 (the Northeast Council of Govern-  
15          ments, the Windham Regional Planning Agency or  
16          its successor, and the Southeastern Connecticut Re-  
17          gional Planning Agency or its successor).

Passed the House of Representatives September 13,  
1993.

Attest:

*Clerk.*

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